THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The National Library's treasure of rare books, manuscripts and letters associated with Rabindra Nath Tagore, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Sarat Chandra Chatterjee and Sarojini Naidu have been found in tact and not stolen from the Kolkata's National Library.

(b) There was no register, but a catalogue of Library's rare books which corroborates with the stock in the Rare Books Division of the Library.

(c) The catalogue is being used by scholars.

(d) and (e) CAG had reported non-cooperation of the then Director (I/C) National Library with the Audit team. They have stated that this deliberate act of non production of records needs to be viewed seriously by the Government.

Tax evasion by Units in SEZ

354. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated a probe on the SEZ Units indulging in tax evasion by diverting goods and service in the Domestic Tariff Area;

(b) if so, what is the number of such units which are found to be involved in the tax evasion; and

(c) what action has been taken against these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Employee strength of State Bank of Travancore

355. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the strength of employees and officers in State Bank of Travancore in the year 2003 and 2008;

(b) what is the number of employees and officers who have left the job on retirement accepting VRS etc. during the last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of these vacancies are not filled up by new appointments;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The strength of employees and officers during the years 2003 and 2008 is as under:-

Year	No. of employees	No of officers	Total
2003	8965	3040	12005
2008	7433	3932	11365

(b) The number of employees and officers, opting for retirement under VRS etc. during the last three years is as under:

Year	No. of employees	No of officers	Total
2005-06	3	5	8
2006-07	7	98	105
2007-08	5	3	8

(c) to (e) Pending completion of a manpower study for firming up of actual requirements, 121 officers were recruited during the year 2006-07; 100 officers during 2007-08; and 450 clerical staff during the current year on *ad-hoc* basis. An indent for recruiting an additional 1000 clerks has been placed on Central Recruitment and Promotion Department, State Bank of India to meet the requirements arising due to Business Process Re-engineering initiatives, branch expansion plans, etc.

Black Money

356. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received the data of Indians who have parked their black money in Liechtenstein's LGT Bank from the German Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to obtain the information from the German Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The matter has been taken up with the German Government Seeking information relating to Indian account holders, if any, in Liechtenstein's LGT Bank.

Rise in inflation

357. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether inflation reached a 16 year high of 12.63 per cent in the week end August of this year;

(b) whether a comprehensive scheme has been launched to curb and cut down it; and